from crafts as an economic activity. In order to accomplish the objective, a greater thrust has been accorded to an integrated approach encompassing various measures intended for the development, expansion and sustaining of production of handicrafts with an emphasis on design and technological development, surveys and studies, and innovative marketing strategies. A concept of craft development centres in identified craft pockets has been introduced to provide a package of inputs including design guidance, raw material, common facility services etc. to a cluster of artisans under a single umbrella. To upgrade existing skills and to develop new skilled hands, a scheme of training has also been in operation. A special programme has also been launched for revival of the languishing crafts.

U. S. AID

*651. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister os FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of US aid to India during the last three years;

(b) whether US aid has reduced substantially during the above period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the projects likely to suffer as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) U. S. AID assistance authorised during the last three U. S. Fiscal Years (October to September) are as follows:–

	US FY 1990 (Oct. 89 to Sept. 90)	*US FY 1991 (Oct. 90 to Sept. 91)*	*US FY 1992 (Oct. 91 to Sep. 92) (Estimated)*
Development Assistance	21.5	20.9	22.0
Title II	94.0	77.1	76.0
	115.5	98.0	98.0

Besides US $ 98.00 million to be provided in FY 1992, US $ 25.00 million worth of edible oil is likely to be made available under Title III PL 480 Programme.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) None.

Tenth Finance Commission

*652. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute the Tenth Finance Commission;

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be constituted;

(c) the progress made so far in this regard;

(d) whether any terms of reference have been formulated; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Tenth Finance Commission is to be constituted not later than 17th June, 1992.

(c) to (e). Preliminary action has already been initiated and an informal Study Group, with representatives of Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission and Officers of six State Governments, has been constituted for suggesting the terms of reference for the Commission.

RBI Committee on Urban Cooperative Banks

6824. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee of Reserved Bank of India examined the issue of expansion of Urban Cooperative Banks' network all over the country;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the committee;

(c) the findings of study and the financial position of the Urban Co-operative Banks registered and operating in Delhi under the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act; and

(d) the control of Reserve Bank of India over these banks to ensure safety of the depositors particularly that of Cooperative House Building and Group Housing Societies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri S. S. Mara the to review the policy relating to licensing of new Urban Cooperative Banks and other related matters. The terms of reference of the Committee are given below:–

1. To review the present policy of Reserve Bank of India in regard to licensing of new Primary Urban Cooperative Banks.

2. To examine whether different criteria need to be laid down for organisation of banks in States which are advanced in urban cooperative banking as compared to States where the facilites have not yet developed.

3. To consider whether primary credit societies which have attained viability norms should be recognised as urban cooperative banks and if so, the conditions which should govern such recognition.

4. To examine whether the viability norms presently prescribed particularly in regard to capital adequacy need upward revision.

(c) The Committee has not submitted its report. There are 14 Urban Cooperative Banks functioning in Union Territory of Delhi at present, besides 2 banks which are under liquidation. The financial position of Urban Cooperative Banks in Union Territory of Delhi as on 30.6.1991 is given below:–

	(Rs. in lakhs)
Paid-up Capital	653.01
Reserves	6404.96
Deposits	8607.10
Borrowings	13.75
Loans & Advances	4860.45

(d) The functioning of Urban Coopera-